A SHORT ADDRESS TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF *DUBLIN.*

Here he comes, and in the Gown of Humility, mark his Behaviour.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

A SHORT

ADDRESS, &c.

FELLOW CITIZENS,

THE melancholy Event which hath given Cauſe for this Letter is ſo ſenſibly felt, that to dwell upon it is only to aggravate Diſtreſs. Yet when the firſt Tide of ſorrow begins its Ebb,

there is a Pleaſure, which human Nature juſtly indulges, in turning back to thoſe Motives which made a Poſſeſſion valuable, and its Loſs lamented. I am perſwaded there is not a worthy Subject who hath not already recollected with Satisfaction in what Glory and Proſperity our late Moſt Gracious Monarch hath left his Subjects, how great in War beyond the Examples of other Nations, and how ſecure in the Freedom of their Conſtitution beyond the Precedents of their own Hiſtory: How Commerce hath been extended by new Acquiſitions, and the Liberty which gave birth to thoſe Acquiſitions hedged round by Laws to guard the Independence of Parliament: How this Kingdom hath emerged from Obſcurity and Diſtreſs and in the Courſe of a ſingle Reign increaſed in Traffic and Affluence to be an Honour to the Parent Country, and a Support in Times of Calamity and War. Who can reflect

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on theſe Things and at the ſame Time conſider the Conduct of his late Majeſty to foreign Princes, his Fidelity in Alliances, his Courage in the Field, his private Manners, not only inoffenſive but amiable, and his Courſe of Health uninterrupted to the laſt Moment of a Reign of thirty-three and a Life of ſeventy ſeven Years, that muſt not think his Death is to be envied by Monarchs?

Great as the general Bleſſings were which adorned his Reign and now indear his Memory; We, my Fellow-Citizens, have particular Cauſe to hold him in laſting Reverence, for under his Auſpices, we have ſeen a City long uneaſy in its Conſtitution, reſtored to a Freedom for which Poſterity will have Cauſe to bleſs the preſent Generation who ſtruggled ſo hardly, and

the King who ſo generouſly approved their Struggles.

The Time is near at Hand when we ſhall have an Occaſion of expreſſing our Senſe of Favours received, by a prudent Choice of worthy Repreſentatives to aſſiſt his preſent Majeſty in concluding a War neceſſarily undertaken and honourably conducted and in improving thoſe Laws and extending that Commerce which his Sire ſo chearfully promoted. In performing this incumbent Duty, let us act like Men, with Caution and Warineſs before we approve, with Steadineſs and Reſolution when we have approved. It may be preſumed there is no Citizen who would not wiſh the Reign of his preſent Majeſty to be eaſy and happy to himſelf, as well as fortunate to his People. Grave and prudent Counſellors will make it ſuch to both; and the young Monarch, with all

al the Generoſity of Youth accompanied by the Wiſdom of riper Years, throws himſelf into the Arms of ſuch Adviſers.

We have already many Candidates to repreſent this Metropolis, and poſſibly we ſhall have more. Let us know them all, before we approve of Men who are to be Counſellors for this Land perhaps during the preſent Generation; Let us weigh their Merit, and value them as they weigh, conſider our particular Situation and Circumſtances, the Youth of our Monarch, and when we have maturely examined them all, then reſolve.

We are, and it is happy that we are, a trading City, We are the great Mart of all the Northern Counties; and as ſuch it ſeems adviſeable that we ſhould be repreſented by Men converſant in Commerce. I know it hath

been often advanced, that Gentlemen, though not practiſed in Trade might become by Obſervation and Books no leſs compotent Judges than thoſe whoſe Days are principally employed in Merchandize. But this muſt come from thoſe who are either inattentive to what they advance, or partial to the Credit which thoſe Aſſertions may gain. To underſtand the Commerce of a Country requires minute Attention from the very Extenſiveneſs of the Subject alone; from its Fluctuation it requires conſtant Attention. The natural Hiſtory of foreign Countries, their Climates, Soils and Products; their civil Policy, their Taxes, their Numbers and their Wants, make a neceſſary Part in the Science of Commerce: And though an exact Knowledge of theſe falls, perhaps, to the Lot of few Merchants, yet the mere Fluctuation of Trade from one Country to another, which can be known

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in its firſt Stages to thoſe alone who are daily experienced in it, makes a juſt and profitable Knowledge of it unattainable by all others.

There is one Conſideration which ſeems not unworthy of our Regard; who of the ſeveral Candidates for the Honour of repreſenting us have moſt *prudently*, *voluntarily*, and *reſolutely* contributed to effect the Change in the Conſtitution of our City; a Change which promiſes many happy Conſequences, to convert the Meetings of Party, once laudable, into uſeful Aſſemblies of our Merchants in order to promote Meaſures for the better regulating and extending Trade, and with the Support and Concurrence of the whole corporate Body recommend thoſe Meaſures to the Wiſdom of the Legiſlature. It requires but little Recollection to know how ardently ſome Citizens promoted even a greater Change, how

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ſtrenuouſly ſome oppoſed every Alteration, and with what Reluctance others were compelled to ſubmit to that Regulation which the Legiſlature in their Wiſdom thought it proper to grant.

There is another Conſideration which ought to eſcape no Citizen's Attention; what ſuch the Morals and private Character of thoſe Men are on whom he will confer his Voice. It is, I know, advanced by ſome that a Man blameable in his private Life, may yet be a deſerving Legiſlator. But it may be preſumed and not without Reaſon, that ſuch Aſſertions come from bad Men only. He who in the narrow Circle of Family, Friends and Acquaintance diſregards all the Ties of moral Duty, muſt be actuated by Paſſions which in the larger Circle of a City or Country can only prove more dangerous as their Power of doing Miſchief is extended. Do all the Labours

bours and Abilities of that Miniſter whom *Great-Britain* beholds with ſuch juſt Admiration, or all his Succeſſes give ſuch Aſſurance of his ſteady Integrity, as the View of that Patriot with his Spade in his Garden, accompanied by his Wife and little Children, and the ſober Meal indulged in ſuch Company, where neither Vanity, Avarice, nor Luxury intrude? Can he merit public Confidence in whom no ſingle Man will confide? Or a bad private Guardian, be a juſt Guardian of the Public?

TheKing, whoſe firſt Declaration as a Monarch muſt warm every good Subject with Zeal and Affection for his Perſon, has pointed out the Rule by which we ſhould govern our Choice; he aſks, *in his arduous Situation, the Aid of every* HONEST MAN. Let us not diſappoint this Requeſt of our Monarch which ſhould be recorded in

Characters

Characters of Gold. Let us look for honeſt Men in the full Extent of the Word, Men who do their utmoſt to fill all the Offices of Life with Honour and amiable Integrity. We ſhall find them among the modeſt and the diffident, for true Worth is never oſtentatious. Buſy, turbulent and vain Men, full of their own Importance, are ſeldom of Advantage to a Community. They promiſe what they know cannot be performed, merely to captivate, or they promiſe becauſe they are Ignorant; and in both Caſes they are unfit to be truſted. We ſhall find honeſt Men among the decent and reſpectful. True Merit ſcorns all ſcurrile Conduct; conſcious of innate Dignity, it is too great to look for Honour from the levelling of others; it diſpraiſes with Uneaſineſs and derives its greateſt Happineſs from the Goodneſs of Mankind; while the unerring Teſt of Meanneſs is the Enjoyment of Delight in the Abuſe of o-

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ther Men. We ſhall find honeſt Men among the loyal and faithful to their King and Country, for they are diſloyal who would diſunite them, and the moſt offenſive in Society are thoſe who on every Light ſurmiſe, and without Ground lay hold of Matters which they do not underſtand, miſrepreſent and colour them from their own viciated Imaginations, and for the Applauſe of ignorant and tumultuous Men like themſelves, ſeek to diſſolve all the Ties of Society.

There is ſtill another Object worthy of your Regard, the Youth of his preſent Majeſty, whoſe firſt Appearance in Government gives a happy Proſpect of a glorious Reign. Your Repreſentatives by long eſtabliſhed Uſage are to ſit 'till their own Diſſolution, or the Demiſe of the Crown, unleſs the Virtue of the next Parliament ſhould determine their Duration; it is therefore

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more incumbent on the Subjects of thisKingdom than thoſe of *Great-Britain* to be guarded in their Choice, as they have fewer Occaſions of rectifying their Miſtakes. Giddy and indiſcreet Men may look lightly on this Argument, and think any Trial ſafely hazarded, but cool and diſcreet Men will ſtretch their Views to the Length of Years, which they hope God will continue His Majeſty's Reign over them, and leave as little to Accident as Prudence can provide againſt. They will caſt their Eyes on Men worthy in private Life, loyal to their Country, zealouſly attached by Choice to the Freedom and Welfare of this City, knowing and converſant in its Trade, poſſeſſed of Property and Generoſity to place them beyond the Reach of Corruption, and of Wiſdom and Humility to take the Advice of their Fellow-Citizens,and think themſelves honoured by theirCounſel. Having found

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ſuch Men they will ſtand firmly in their Support, being conſcious that thereby they confer the higheſt poſſible Service on their King and Country; and they will derive no little Honour to themſelves, for the People are known by their Repreſentatives, no leſs than Kings by their Miniſters; and the Elector ſtamps his own Character by the Vote he gives for a Repreſentative. I am, Brethren and Fellow-Citizens, with ſincere Wiſhes for your Happineſs, and Independence.

YOUR FELLOW-CITIZEN.

FINIS.

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